

# STATE OF IOWA

GOVERNOR TERRY E. BRANSTAD LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR KIM REYNOLDS

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS ROBERT C. KING, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

# **Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs**

**Veteran/Military-Related Events in Iowa** 

This event listing is compiled by Jill Joseph, Outreach Coordinator, IDVA. It provides information about veteranrelated events as provided to the IDVA office. IDVA's endeavor is to ensure that interested individuals and organizations are aware of these events. An updated listing will be distributed on the first and middle of each month. *Please send details on events, including the 11 key pieces of information outlined below, to*: <u>jill.joseph@iowa.gov</u>. *We appreciate your efforts to put the information in the following order*:

- 1. Name of Event, 2. Date of Event, 3. Time of Event, 4. Location of Event, 5. Address of Event, 6. City, 7. State,
- 8. Point of Contact, 9. POC's Phone #, 10. POC's email address, 11. Additional details/coordinating instructions

#### **Listed Chronologically**

## 2014

Valentines for Veterans 2014

VFW Post 12105 is promoting this event. (Tommy Tyler, Post Commander 9, 515-208-5663, <a href="mailto:tylervfwpost12105@gmail.com">tylervfwpost12105@gmail.com</a>.) Please send handmade or store bought valentines cards to one of the following locations:

VA Central lowa Health Care System, 3600 30th Street, Des Moines, IA 50310
lowa Veterans Home, 1301 Summit Street, Marshalltown IA 50158
lowa City VA Health Care System, 601 Hwy 6 West, lowa City, IA 52246-2208

Valentines can also be dropped off by February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at the lowa Gold Star Museum, Camp Dodge, 7105 NW 70<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Johnston (Polk Co), IA or the Fort Des Moines Museum & Education Center, 75 E. Army Post Road, Des Moines (Polk Co), IA.

- ◆ Joining Community Forces (JCF) meeting, 13 Feb 2014, 8:30 am 11:30 am, Des Moines Air Base, Super Sabre Rd, Des Moines, IA (Polk Co.), Sondra VanDerPol, MPSC Contractor & Family Assistance Center Coordinator, 515-252-4758, Sondra.l.vanderpol.ctr@mail.mil. Note: Joining Community Forces (JCF) is a meeting designed to connect veteran & military services to improve communication between services for the best treatment and benefit of service members & their families. All meetings begin at 8:30 am with coffee, registration, and networking; discussion of topics & issues begins at 9:00 am.
- ♦ VFW Post 9127 Post & Auxiliary Meeting, 18 Feb 2014, 7:00 pm, 4029 Urbandale Ave, Des Moines (Polk Co), IA, 515-255-9804, admin@vfw9127.com.
- ♦ Farmer Veteran Coalition of Iowa Workshop, 20 Feb 2014, 12:30 pm 5:00 pm, Indian Hills Community College, Bennett Student Center Room 100, Ottumwa (Wapello Co), IA, Ed Cox, 515-661-8459, ed@iowafarmerveteran.org. Registration & additional details may be found here: <a href="http://iowafarmerveteran.org/workshops-for-veterans-in-agriculture">http://iowafarmerveteran.org/workshops-for-veterans-in-agriculture</a>. Note: The Farmer Veteran Coalition of Iowa is hosting four workshops across the state to help veterans seeking careers in agriculture. The workshops will focus on connecting veterans with local and state service providers including: other veterans involved in farming &

agriculture; USDA farm service agency & Natural Resource Conservation service; veteran benefits specialist; financial planners & tax consultants, attorneys; attorneys specializing in agricultural law; ISU extension; veteran reps from universities & community colleges. Veterans will hear presentations and receive resources on the following topics: accessing capital & farm business development; transitioning from the military to agricultural careers; getting ahead of legal & tax issues; fully utilizing USDA programs to develop whole farm plans.

- ◆ Farmer Veteran Coalition of Iowa Workshop, 22 Feb 2014, 8:30 am − 1:00 pm, Hawkeye Community College, Bremer Hall, Room 165, Waterloo (Black Hawk Co), IA, Ed Cox, 515-661-8459, ed@iowafarmerveteran.org. Registration & additional details may be found here: <a href="http://iowafarmerveteran.org/workshops-for-veterans-in-agriculture">http://iowafarmerveteran.org/workshops-for-veterans-in-agriculture</a>. Note: The Farmer Veteran Coalition of Iowa is hosting four workshops across the state to help veterans seeking careers in agriculture. The workshops will focus on connecting veterans with local and state service providers including: other veterans involved in farming & agriculture; USDA farm service agency & Natural Resource Conservation service; veteran benefits specialist; financial planners & tax consultants, attorneys; attorneys specializing in agricultural law; ISU extension; veteran reps from universities & community colleges. Veterans will hear presentations and receive resources on the following topics: accessing capital & farm business development; transitioning from the military to agricultural careers; getting ahead of legal & tax issues; fully utilizing USDA programs to develop whole farm plans.
- ◆ Story County Freedom Flight Fundraiser, 1 March 2014, 4:00 − 8:00 pm, Ames Golf & Country Club, 5752 Geo Washington Carver Ave, Ames (Story Co), IA 50010, Brett McLain, Story County Veterans Affairs, 515-956-2625, <a href="mailto:bmclain@storycounty.com">bmclain@storycounty.com</a>. Note: The Story County Freedom Flight and Ames Golf & Country Club are hosting a wine, beer, and spirits tasting event. All proceeds go to support the next Story County Freedom Flight. Cost is \$30 per person; \$50 per couple.

  www.storycountyfreedomflight.org.
- ♦ VFW Post 9668 Monthly Meeting, Urbandale/Johnston VFW, 3 March 2014, 7:00 pm, VFW Department of Iowa State Headquarters, 3601 Beaver Ave., Des Moines, IA 50310 (Polk Co.), Robert Forbes, Post 9668 Commander, 515-778-6165, vfwpost9668@yahoo.com.
- ◆ Pella Corporation Wellness Fair, 5 March 2014, 6:00 am 5:00 pm, Pella Corporation, 102 Main Street, Pella (Marion Co), IA 50219, Carrie Baird, 641-621-3626, <a href="mailto:bairdcd@pella.com">bairdcd@pella.com</a> or Mike Kuhn, Marion County VSO, 641-828-2201, <a href="mailto:mkuhn@co.marion.ia.us">mkuhn@co.marion.ia.us</a>.
- ◆ Cedar Valley Black Veteran Coalition Tribute 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Vietnam War Community Commemoration, Reception: 7 Feb 2014, 6:00 pm 9:00 pm; Tribute: 8 Feb 2014, 1:00 pm 4:00 pm, Payne AME Church, 1044 Mobile Street, Waterloo, (Black Hawk Co), IA 50703, Ms. Melvina Scott, 319-433-5028 or Capt. Anthony Tisdale, 319-610-2639. *Note: February 7 keynote speaker will be 1SGT Lloyd Green, Army Retired; February 8 keynote speaker will be Col David Saddler, Marine Retired.*
- ◆ ESGR Workshop for HR Professionals, Business Owners, Managers, and Supervisors, 11 Feb, 2014, 7:30 am − 9:00 am, William Penn University, 1275 NW 128<sup>th</sup> St, Clive, (Polk Co) IA 50325, Becky Coady, 800-294-6607 x4192, Rebecca.1.coady.ctr@mail.mil. Note: This <u>free</u> workshop will benefit you and your military employees. A free breakfast will be provided courtesy of your local lowa Employer support of the guard and Reserve (ESGR). 2.0 HRCl general credits have been approved for this workshop by SHRM. This even is designed for business professionals to discover or refresh their knowledge of the rights and responsibilities of employers as they engage employees that serve in the Guard and Reserve.
- ♦ **lowa Veterans Council Quarterly Meeting, 11 March 2014,** 1:00 pm, lowa Veterans Home (Whitehill Auditorium),1301 Summit St., Marshalltown, IA 50158 (Marshall Co.), David Thornburg, 515-229-8943, <u>tankrockapge@live.com</u>.
- ◆ Farmer Veteran Coalition of Iowa Workshop, 13 March 2014, 12:30 pm − 5:00 pm, Southwestern Community College, Room 111, 2300 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Red Oak (Montgomery Co), IA, Ed Cox, 515-661-8459, ed@iowafarmerveteran.org. Registration & additional details may be found here: <a href="http://iowafarmerveteran.org/workshops-for-veterans-in-agriculture">http://iowafarmerveteran.org/workshops-for-veterans-in-agriculture</a>. Note: The Farmer Veteran Coalition of Iowa is hosting four workshops across the state to help veterans seeking careers in agriculture. The workshops will focus on connecting veterans with local and state service providers including: other veterans involved in farming & agriculture; USDA farm service agency & Natural Resource Conservation service; veteran benefits specialist; financial planners & tax consultants, attorneys; attorneys specializing in agricultural law; ISU extension; veteran reps from universities & community colleges. Veterans will hear presentations and receive resources on the following topics: accessing capital & farm business development; transitioning from the military to agricultural careers; getting ahead of legal & tax issues; fully utilizing USDA programs to develop whole farm plans.
- ◆ Farmer Veteran Coalition of Iowa Workshop, 15 March 2014, 8:30 am 1:00 pm, Buena Vista University, Siebens Forum UPS 4, 610 W. 31<sup>st</sup> Street, Storm Lake (Buena Vista Co), IA, Ed Cox, 515-661-8459, ed@iowafarmerveteran.org. Registration & additional details may be found here: <a href="http://iowafarmerveteran.org/workshops-for-veterans-in-agriculture">http://iowafarmerveteran.org/workshops-for-veterans-in-agriculture</a>. Note: The Farmer Veteran Coalition of Iowa is hosting four workshops across the state to help veterans seeking careers in agriculture. The workshops will

focus on connecting veterans with local and state service providers including: other veterans involved in farming & agriculture; USDA farm service agency & Natural Resource Conservation service; veteran benefits specialist; financial planners & tax consultants, attorneys; attorneys specializing in agricultural law; ISU extension; veteran reps from universities & community colleges. Veterans will hear presentations and receive resources on the following topics: accessing capital & farm business development; transitioning from the military to agricultural careers; getting ahead of legal & tax issues; fully utilizing USDA programs to develop whole farm plans.

- ♦ Homefront Connections: Veteran Resource Fair, 19 March 2014, 10:00 am − 4:00 pm, Sullivan Brothers Museum, 503 South Street, Waterloo (Black Hawk Co), IA 50701, 319-234-6357, <a href="https://homefrontconnections@gmdistrict.org">homefrontconnections@gmdistrict.org</a>. Note: Homefront Connections is a resource fair for current military members and veterans of all branches of service and their families. This will be an opportunity to connect with over 45 organizations that serve as local resources to veterans, military members, & their families. Homefront Connections is a collaboration of UNI, Hawkeye Community College, Black Hawk County Commission for Veterans Affairs, and the Grout Museum District.
- ♦ Pocahontas County Veterans Appreciation, 22 March 2014, 10:30 am 2:00 pm, Sacred Heart Catholic Church Parish Hall, 250 Ralston St., Laurens, IA 50554, Orene Cressler, 712-335-3270, ocresslerpocahontasvaga@ncn.net. Note: Veterans will be able to obtain veteran information from booth exhibitors.
- ♦ **lowa Commission of Veterans Affairs Quarterly Meeting, 2 April 2014**, 10:00 am, lowa Veterans Home, 1301 Summit St., Marshalltown, IA 50158 (Marshall Co.), Mari Mielke, 515-727-3440, mari.mielke@iowa.gov.
- ♦ VFW Post 9668 Monthly Meeting, Urbandale/Johnston VFW, 7 April 2014, 7:00 pm, VFW Department of Iowa State Headquarters, 3601 Beaver Ave., Des Moines, IA 50310 (Polk Co.), Robert Forbes, Post 9668 Commander, 515-778-6165, vfwpost9668@yahoo.com.
- ♦ Veterans Benefits Fair, 11 April 2014, 10:00 am 3:00 pm, Indian Creek Museum, 59256 380<sup>th</sup> Street, Emerson (Mills Co), IA 51533, Mills County Veterans Affairs, Melissa Gray, 712-527-5621, mgray@millscoia.us.
- ◆ VFW Post 9668 Monthly Meeting, Urbandale/Johnston VFW, 5 May 2014, 7:00 pm, VFW Department of Iowa State Headquarters, 3601 Beaver Ave., Des Moines, IA 50310 (Polk Co.), Robert Forbes, Post 9668 Commander, 515-778-6165, vfwpost9668@yahoo.com. Note: Annual elections will be held at this meeting.
- ◆ The University of Northern Iowa Reserve Officer Training Corps Commissioning Ceremony, 9 May 2014, time TBD, West Gym, UNI Campus, 1227 W. 27<sup>th</sup> St., Cedar Falls, IA 50614 (Black Hawk Co.), Major Kristy Rose, 319-273-6337, <a href="mailto:kristy.rose@uni.edu">kristy.rose@uni.edu</a>.
- Suspense date for the Jeff Sharlet Memorial Award for Veterans Writing Competition, 15 May 2014, The Iowa Review, 208 EPB, Iowa city, IA 52242 (Johnson Co.), 319-335-0462, iowa-reviews@uiowa.edu, <a href="http://iowareview.uiowa.edu/veteranswritingcontest">http://iowareview.uiowa.edu/veteranswritingcontest</a>.
- ♦ The University of Iowa Reserve Officer Training Corps Commissioning Ceremony, 17 May 2014, time TBD, Iowa Memorial Union, 125 N. Madison St., Iowa City, IA 52242 (Johnson Co.), Major Albrecht, Professor of Military Science, Sharyl Grimm, 319-335-9187, <a href="mailto:sharyl-grimm@uiowa.edu">sharyl-grimm@uiowa.edu</a>.
- ♦ Vietnam Veterans Recognition Day, 7 May 2014, Vietnam War Monument, Iowa State Capitol Grounds
- ♦ Joining Community Forces (JCF) meeting, 8 May 2014, 8:30 am − 11:30 am, Waterloo Army National Guard Armory, 2245 Big Rock Rd, Waterloo, IA (Black Hawk Co.), Sondra VanDerPol, MPSC Contractor & Family Assistance Center Coordinator, 515-252-4758, Sondra.l.vanderpol.ctr@mail.mil. Note: Joining Community Forces (JCF) is a meeting designed to connect veteran & military services to improve communication between services for the best treatment and benefit of service members & their families. All meetings begin at 8:30 am with coffee, registration, and networking; discussion of topics & issues begins at 9:00 am.
- ◆ National Civil War Artillery Association & Fourth Military District, Sons of Veterans Reserve Artillery Safety Course, 17 May 2014, Boscobel, Wisconsin Sportsman's Club, 4082 Wisconsin 133 Trunk, Boscobel, WI 53805. Direct all inquiries to: Maj. David M. Lamb, 515-986-4825, digger1@q.com. Note: This course is open to all persons interested in learning the skills of the artillerists of years gone by no matter what historical period. Camping is available on the grounds of the Sportsman's Club in Boscobel for both Friday & Saturday nights, May 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>. There is a registration fee of \$20.00 per participant and forms can be found here: www.iowavalor.com along with additional information about the event.
- Memorial Day, 26 May 2014 (Last Monday in May annually)

- ♦ VFW Post 9668 Monthly Meeting, Urbandale/Johnston VFW, 2 June 2014, 7:00 pm, VFW Department of Iowa State Headquarters, 3601 Beaver Ave., Des Moines, IA 50310 (Polk Co.), Robert Forbes, Post 9668 Commander, 515-778-6165, vfwpost9668@yahoo.com.
- ♦ 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Veteran Appreciation Day, June 7, 2014, 9:00 am 3:00 pm, Cherokee Fair Grounds, 200 Linden Street (South Hwy 59), Cherokee, IA, Dana Evans, Cherokee County VA Director, 712-225-6319, <a href="mailto:cherokeevets@gmail.com">cherokeevets@gmail.com</a>. Note: This year's them will be World War I 1914-1917 and World War II 1941-1945. Veteran Affairs offices, businesses, military groups, and service organizations are invited to participate. VA reps will be in attendance. Free music, food.
- ◆ PVA of America Iowa Chapter National Trap Shoot Competition, 27-29 June 2014, Otter Creek Sportsman's Club, 9001 Milburn Rd NE, Cedar Rapids, (Linn Co), IA 52402, David Graham, 660-868-0097 or Kenny Lloyd, 515-570-1402, <a href="mailto:iowapvasports@yahoo.com">iowapvasports@yahoo.com</a>. Note: Competition open to all shooters sitting or standing, veteran and nonveteran. Host hotel is the Marriot, 1200 Collins Rd NE, Cedar Rapids, IA, 52402, 319-393-6600.
- VFW Post 9668 Monthly Meeting, Urbandale/Johnston VFW, 7 July 2014, 7:00 pm, VFW Department of Iowa State
  Headquarters, 3601 Beaver Ave., Des Moines, IA 50310 (Polk Co.), Robert Forbes, Post 9668 Commander, 515-778-6165,
  <a href="mailto:vfwpost9668@yahoo.com">vfwpost9668@yahoo.com</a>.
- ♦ Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs Quarterly Meeting, 9 July 2014, 10:00 am, Iowa Gold Star Museum, 7105 NW 70th Ave., Camp Dodge, Johnston, IA 50131 (Polk Co.), Mari Mielke, 515-727-3440, mari.mielke@iowa.gov.
- ♦ 2014 National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars FW, 19-23 Jul 2014, St. Louis, MO.
- ♦ Midwest Farmer Veteran Coalition Conference, 25-26 July 2014, 10:00 am 5:00 pm, Cartwright Hall, Drake University, 2621 Carpenter Avenue, Des Moines (Polk Co), IA 50311, Ed Cox, 515-661-8459, ed@iowafarmerveteran.org. Note: Agenda and topics are extensive visit http://iowafarmerveteran.org/midwest-farmer-veteran-coalition-conference for additional information.
- ♦ VFW Post 9668 Monthly Meeting, 4 August 2014, Urbandale/Johnston VFW, 7:00 pm, VFW Department of Iowa State Headquarters, 3601 Beaver Ave., Des Moines, IA 50310 (Polk Co.), Robert Forbes, Post 9668 Commander, 515-778-6165, vfwpost9668@yahoo.com.
- ♦ lowa State Fair Veterans Parade, 11 August 2014, 11:00 am, lowa State Fairgrounds.
- ◆ Joining Community Forces (JCF) meeting, 14 August 2014, 8:30 am 11:30 am, Gold Star Museum, Camp Dodge, 7105 NW 70<sup>th</sup> Ave, Johnston, IA (Polk Co.), Sondra VanDerPol, MPSC Contractor & Family Assistance Center Coordinator, 515-252-4758, Sondra.l.vanderpol.ctr@mail.mil. Note: Joining Community Forces (JCF) is a meeting designed to connect veteran & military services to improve communication between services for the best treatment and benefit of service members & their families. All meetings begin at 8:30 am with coffee, registration, and networking; discussion of topics & issues begins at 9:00 am.
- ♦ **Iowa National Guard 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Alumni Day, 16 Aug 2014**, Camp Dodge Joint Maneuver Training Center, 7105 NW 70<sup>th</sup> Ave., Johnston, IA 50131 (Polk Co.), COL Timothy Glynn, 800-294-6607 ext 4360.
- ♦ Labor Day, Federal Holiday, 1 Sept 2014 (First Monday in September annually)
- ♦ VFW Post 9668 Monthly Meeting, Urbandale/Johnston VFW, 8 Sept 2014, 7:00 pm, VFW Department of Iowa State Headquarters, 3601 Beaver Ave., Des Moines, IA 50310 (Polk Co.), Robert Forbes, Post 9668 Commander, 515-778-6165, vfwpost9668@yahoo.com. Note: Delayed date due to Labor Day.
- ♦ National POW-MIA Recognition Day, 19 Sept 2014 (3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of September annually), Gold Star Museum, 11:30 am 2:00 pm, 7105 NW 70<sup>th</sup> Ave., Johnston, IA (Polk Co), 515-252-4531
- ♦ Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs Quarterly Meeting, 1 Oct 2014, 10:00 am, Iowa Veterans Home, 1301 Summit St., Marshalltown, IA 50158 (Marshall Co.), Mari Mielke, 515-727-3440, mari.mielke@iowa.gov.
- ◆ United States Army Warrant Officer Association (USAWOA) Annual Meeting of the Members, 6-10 Oct 2014, Sheraton West Des Moines, 1800 50th St, West Des Moines, IA 50266 (Polk Co.), CW5(R) Marv Peters, 319-389-3698, marvpeters@southslope.net. Note: Awards banquet will be held 10 Oct 2014.

- VFW Post 9668 Monthly Meeting, Urbandale/Johnston VFW, 6 Oct 2014, 7:00 pm, VFW Department of Iowa State Headquarters, 3601 Beaver Ave., Des Moines, IA 50310 (Polk Co.), Robert Forbes, Post 9668 Commander, 515-778-6165, <a href="mailto:vfwpost9668@yahoo.com">vfwpost9668@yahoo.com</a>.
- ◆ 2014 Association of the United States Army NATIONAL Conference, 13-15 Oct 2014, Washington DC, <a href="http://www.ausa.org">http://www.ausa.org</a>
- ♦ VFW Post 9668 Monthly Meeting, Urbandale/Johnston VFW, 3 Nov 2014, 7:00 pm, VFW Department of Iowa State Headquarters, 3601 Beaver Ave., Des Moines, IA 50310 (Polk Co.), Robert Forbes, Post 9668 Commander, 515-778-6165, vfwpost9668@yahoo.com.
- ◆ 2014 Dallas County Veterans Fair & Benefits Open House, 1 Nov 2014, 10:00 am 2:00 pm, American Legion Post 403/Veterans Reception Center, 910 Main St, Van Meter, IA (Dallas Co), 50261, Ed Vos, Dallas county Veterans Affairs, 515-993-5809, ed.vos@co.dallas.ia.us. Note: Open house forum no formal presentations.
- ♦ Veterans Day, Tuesday, 11 Nov 2014
- ♦ Veterans Day Parade Davenport 11 Nov 2014, Brent Garrow, 563-333-2227, brent.garrow@mcgladrey.com,
- ◆ Joining Community Forces (JCF) meeting, 13 Nov 2014, 8:30 am − 11:30 am, Council Bluffs Army National Guard Armory, 2415 Kanesville Blvd., Council Bluffs, IA (Pottawattamie Co.), Sondra VanDerPol, MPSC Contractor & Family Assistance Center Coordinator, 515-252-4758, Sondra.l.vanderpol.ctr@mail.mil. Note: Joining Community Forces (JCF) is a meeting designed to connect veteran & military services to improve communication between services for the best treatment and benefit of service members & their families. All meetings begin at 8:30 am with coffee, registration, and networking; discussion of topics & issues begins at 9:00 am.
- ♦ VFW Post 9668 Monthly Meeting, Urbandale/Johnston VFW, 1 Dec 2014, 7:00 pm, VFW Department of Iowa State Headquarters, 3601 Beaver Ave., Des Moines, IA 50310 (Polk Co.), Robert Forbes, Post 9668 Commander, 515-778-6165, vfwpost9668@yahoo.com.
- ♦ **Pearl Harbor Day**, 73<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the Attack on Pearl Harbor, **7 Dec 2014** (December 7, 1941).

## 2015

♦ Vets Day on the Hill, 21 January 2015, Iowa State Capitol, Des Moines, (Polk Co.) IA.